



Journalism – Extra, Extra, Read All About It

Summer, 2005

PLEASE BRING THIS HOME ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS, RETURN ASAP

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Congratulations! Your child will be published this summer while enrolled in the Summer Academic Enrichment Program's Journalism class. It is our goal for everybody to have an opportunity to write a news story, editorial, and/or sports column and have their byline published in a school newspaper. We have other goals:

GOALS:

- Analyze the text of several newspapers and magazines, looking for how news values are formed and organized.
- Discuss the role of the media in the world today, and the “non-biased” media versus the “liberal” media, and give a brief history of American media and the First Amendment.
- Give specific examples in their stories with direct quotations, and at least 2 comparisons for every unnamed source; learn how to take “quick notes”
- Learn the correct way to write a news story, including inverted pyramid and a proper news angle, which entices the reader to continue.
- Simulate the newsroom environment, stressing the important role of anchors in today’s world, and the colorful words they use.
- To learn the terms and jargon which reporters and editors use every day to determine which articles are selected.

Of course, I will need your help. Students should attend class regularly and arrive on time with proper materials. There will be no homework or books regularly assigned, but you may want to pick up the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual for this summer and future reference (I still use mine). I may ask these budding reporters to work on their articles or handouts at home. They will be assigned into “newsgroups” and graded according to their ability and improvement. If possible, I would like you to assist them. These students will feel like **real** reporters and editors (which they will be). They should have fun and learn something about writing, journalism, and the business world at the same time.

If you have any questions or comments, please leave me a message at the SAEP office at eric.bidna.05@csun.edu or 677-3333.

Thank you,

Eric Bidna
Journalism Teacher, SAEP

-----TEAR OFF-----

We have read this letter detailing the goals for the Journalism Class during the SAEP, and we have discussed these goals together.

STUDENT'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT) : _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's Signature: _____